

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/712,577

Examiner

Linh T. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

MORISHIMA ET AL.

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/26/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

WAYNE YOUNG  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

## DETAILED ACTION

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mehren Argomad on March 29, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In regarding claim 5, Mehren Argomad granted the office permission to change the claim as follow: 5. **A computer-readable medium having a program embodied thereon**, an optical disk recording apparatus that is designed for applying a laser beam onto an optical disk according to first recording data of a predetermined format to form pits having lengths specified by the first recording data, the program being executable for causing the optical disk recording apparatus to perform a method of forming a visible image on an optical disk, said the method comprising: a generating step for generating second recording data by embedding image formation data of a visible image in a part of a predetermined format which is the same as predetermined for the first recording data; an extracting step for extracting the image formation data of the visible image from the second recording data of the predetermined format; and a forming step for forming

pits in the optical disk according to the extracted image formation data so as to form the visible image on the optical disk.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-23 are allowable over the prior art made of record with the Examiner Amendment, above. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In regards to claims 1, none of the references of record alone or combination disclose or suggest a visible image forming method for forming a visible image on an optical disk by an optical disk recording apparatus, which is designed for applying a laser beam onto an optical disk according to first recording data of a predetermined format to form pits having lengths specified by the first recording data, the program being executable for causing the optical disk recording apparatus to perform a method of forming a visible image on an optical disk, the method comprising: **a generating step for generating second recording data by embedding image formation data of a visible image in a part of a predetermined format which is the same as predetermined for the first recording data; an extracting step for extracting the image formation data of the visible image from the second recording data of the predetermined format; and a forming step for forming pits in the optical disk according to the extracted image formation data so as to form the visible image on the optical disk.**

Claims 5 and 6 have similar allowable subject matter, therefore are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### **Citation of Relevant Prior Art**

Anderson et al discloses an integrated digital recording data and a labeling device.

Schiewe discloses a formation of storing serially sequence of pits and lands by a laser beam.

Yamamoto discloses optical disk recording apparatus that generates data corresponding visual image controlling the laser diode.

Ohno et al discloses an optical recording medium displaying visible image by using reflected light caused by different track pitch.

Kobayashi et al discloses an apparatus that is able to record data and a visible image using an optical modulator.

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**Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Linh T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-5513. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young can be reached on 571-272-4483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LN  
March 29, 2007

  
WAYNE YOUNG  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER